

The Lidun Singers

Constitution

1 Name

The name of the organisation shall be The Lidun Singers, hereinafter referred to as 'the Choir'.

2 Objectives

The Choir is established to pursue the following objectives:

- a) Participation and education in choral singing activities, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals;
- b) The organisation, management and development of the Choir's activities for all members of the Choir;
- c) The provision of rehearsing and performing facilities for its members;
- d) The promotion of the Choir and its future.
- e) To further such charitable purpose or purposes as members of the Choir, through the Management Committee, in their absolute discretion, shall think fit but, in particular, through the making of donations.

3 Membership

All members are subject to the Constitution of the Choir.

- a) Membership of the Choir shall be all those who are currently on the membership list as of the time the Constitution comes into operation.
- b) New members shall be accepted into the Choir if it is considered that the particular section of the Choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass), to which application is made, has available space. This shall be decided by the Management Committee and the Musical Director. The current waiting – list shall be maintained.
- c) No person shall be refused membership on the grounds of race, colour, creed, religion, sex, sexual preference, impairment or disability.
- d) All members shall be required to pay appropriate membership fees, whether that be at each rehearsal, termly or annually. The amount payable shall be decided by the Management Committee after consultation with the members.

- e) Each member shall be entitled to attend and vote at Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings.
- f) Any member may be nominated for, elected to and serve on the Management Committee.

4 General Meetings

a) Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM shall be held each year at such time and place as determined by the Management Committee, at approximately twelve month intervals, but no more than fourteen months after the date of the previous AGM. Members shall be formally informed of an AGM at least twenty one days in advance.

At each AGM the following business shall be conducted:

- i) reception and confirmation of the minutes of the previous year's AGM;
- ii) presentation of the Choir's financial accounts for the year;
- iii) appointment of an independent body to review the year's accounts;
- iv) presentation of the Choir's projected financial situation for the forthcoming year and the setting of fees;
- v) presentation of the Chairman's Report;
- vi) election of officers to the Management Committee, when relevant;
- vii) any other business brought before the meeting.

b) Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM):

An EGM may be called in writing, with at least twenty one days' notice upon the demand of

- i) at least twenty five per cent of the members of the Choir or
- ii) the Chairman or
- iii) a majority of the Management Committee.

5 Rules for General Meetings

- a) All members of the choir shall be formally notified by the Secretary, at least twenty one days in advance, of any forthcoming General Meeting.
- b) Items for the agenda must be submitted to the Secretary at least seven days before any scheduled meeting.
- c) The Chairman or, in his/her absence, a member selected by the meeting shall take the Chair.

- d) Each member shall have one vote.
- e) All votes shall be determined by a simple majority. In the event of a tied vote, the Chairman may exercise a casting vote.
- f) The Secretary or other person specially appointed by the Committee shall keep a full record of proceedings and all resolutions passed.
- g) There shall be a quorum when at least twenty per cent of the members of the Choir are present.

6 Election of the Management Committee

- a) The members of the Management Committee shall be drawn from the membership as defined in Section 3 of the Constitution.
- b) Candidates shall be elected by ballot at the AGM and shall be members of the Management Committee from the conclusion of that AGM. They shall be members of that Committee for up to a period of five years initially and thereafter three if re-elected.
- c) All nominations of candidates for election shall have the consent of the nominee, be in writing, be seconded and be received by the Secretary at least seven days before the AGM.
- d) Uncontested posts may be filled by nomination and election at the AGM.

7 Members of the Management Committee

- a) The Management Committee shall consist of between seven and ten members, including the following officers:
 - Chairman,
 - Secretary,
 - Treasurer.
- b) All members of the Committee shall be entitled to one vote each at both General and Committee Meetings. In the event of a tied vote, the Chairman may exercise a casting vote.
- c) The Management Committee may co-opt any member of the choir to the Committee until the conclusion of the following AGM, providing that the number of co-optees shall not exceed one third of the total number of persons serving on the Committee at that time.

8 Rules for the Management Committee

- a) The Committee shall hold at least two ordinary meetings each year. A special meeting may be called at any time by the Chairman, or by any two members of the Committee upon not less than four days' notice being given to the other members of the Committee of the matters to be discussed.
- b) The Chairman shall chair the meeting or, in his/her absence, a nominee from the Committee.
- c) Notice of any meeting of the Committee shall be given by the Secretary. In an emergency, any member of the Committee may call a meeting.
- d) The quorum shall be four of those entitled to vote as listed in Section 7.
- e) All members of the Committee shall be entitled to vote.
- f) All votes shall be determined by a simple majority. In the event of a tied vote, the Chairman may exercise a casting vote.
- g) The Committee shall keep minutes of the proceedings of the Committee and any sub-committee and shall ensure that these are stored safely and available for inspection as required.
- h) The Committee shall be responsible for the dissemination of information to the members of the Choir by email, phone call or verbal updates at rehearsals.
- i) The Committee may appoint one or more sub-committees, consisting of three or more members of the Committee, for the purpose of making any enquiry or supervising or performing any function or duty which, in the opinion of the Committee, would be more conveniently undertaken by a sub-committee: provided that all acts and proceedings of any sub-committee shall be fully and promptly reported to the Committee.
- j) The Committee reserves the right to review the continued membership of any person in the Choir who persistently fails to pay any appropriately agreed fees.

9 Management

All the arrangements for any concerts and other events and the control of finance shall be in the hands of the Committee.

10 Powers

The Committee has the power to

- a) terminate the membership of any individual, provided that the decision of the Committee (with the exception of the individual concerned if a member of the Committee and any member of the Committee making or connected with the complaint against the individual) is unanimous, both as to the termination and as to there being good reason for it, and provided that the individual concerned shall

have the right to be heard by the Committee, accompanied by a friend if desired, before a final decision is made;

- b) cooperate with charities, voluntary bodies and statutory authorities operating in furtherance of the objectives or of similar charitable purposes and to exchange information and advice with them;
- c) appoint and constitute such advisory committees as the Committee may think fit;
- d) do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the objectives.

11 Finance

- a) The income and properties of the Choir, however derived, shall be applied solely towards the objectives of the Choir as set out in Section 2 of the Constitution. No portion thereof shall be paid or transferred, either directly or indirectly, to any member or members of the Choir except in payment of legitimate expenses incurred on behalf of the Choir.
- b) The Choir shall have the power to raise money by means as determined by the Committee, having been ratified by the membership.
- c) All monies shall be lodged in a bank account in the name of the Choir.
- d) The Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary shall be authorised signatories to sign on behalf of the Choir, of which any two signatures shall be needed.
- e) The financial year of the Choir shall run from July 1st to June 30th.
- f) Records of the Choir's finances shall be reviewed annually by an independent body.

12 Amendments to the Constitution

The Constitution may only be amended by a proposal passed by a majority of members present and entitled to vote at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting, provided that twenty one days' notice of the proposed alteration has been communicated to all members.

13 The Dissolution of the Choir

- a) Any resolution to dissolve the Choir may be passed at any General or Extraordinary General Meeting, provided that
 - i) the terms of the proposed resolution have been received by the Secretary at least seven days before the meeting at which the resolution is to be brought forward,

- ii) all members have been informed of the proposed resolution either by email, phone call or verbally,
 - iii) such resolution shall receive the assent of two thirds of those present and entitled to vote.
- b) Upon dissolution of the Choir, after all Choir liabilities have been cleared, all remaining financial and material assets shall be donated to a charity which supports musical activities.

14 Declaration

It is hereby certified that this document represents a true and most up-to-date version of the Constitution of The Lidun Singers.

Signatures	Chairman	Date
	Secretary	Date